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## WILL BE FIRST CLASS OFFICE AGAIN IS WORD

BUSINESS AT ALMA POST OFFICE SHOWING NEARLY 35% INCREASE THIS YEAR.

## New Ratings Come In July

The Alma postoffice has the promise of again becoming a first class office after July 1, 1922, it became known the first of the week, as the receipts of the office have every indication this year of exceeding the \$40,000 worth of business required for a first class office.

Two years ago Alma's postoffice from January 1 to January 1, exceeded \$40,000 worth of business and the following July became a first class office. Last year from January 1 to January 1, the receipts of the office fell \$3,500 below the amount required for a first class office and on July 1 of this year the ranking of the office fell, and with the lower ranking of the office \$200 was lopped off from the salary of the postmaster, making the office one that paid \$3,000, which it is doing at the present time.

At the present time, and in fact since the first of the year, the postoffice has had its receipts growing so that it is certain to make up for the \$3,500 which it fell short last year, and will have considerable to spare in returning to a first class office. It was during the last three months of last year that the receipts of the office fell down. During October and November of this year they have exceeded last year's business for those months to such an extent that it will more than make up last year's shortage, on the sum required for a first class office. The increase over last year is expected to be approximately 35 per cent.

The rating of the first class office does not come with the close of the year in which the business exceeds \$40,000, but on the July 1 following so it will not be until next July that the office will again be rated as a first class postoffice. At that time the salary of the postmaster will be increased \$200, to \$3,200, and the assistant postmaster will receive a \$50 boost.

In this connection it might be interesting to note that Mr. Stuckey, the assistant postmaster, said Tuesday that it was the desire of the postoffice officials here to have people bring complaints to either the postmaster or the assistant when they have them to make. In event that complaints are made to the proper source, so that full knowledge of every complaint can be secured, every effort will be made to rectify them, he said. The postoffice officials are also willing to receive suggestions that might aid in bettering the service here, he stated.

## LAY CONCRETE ON MARQUETTE AVE.

525 FEET PAVING BEING BUILT FROM REPUBLIC AVE. TO WHEEL PLANT.

Because of the fact that during the greater part of last winter, Marquette avenue was almost impassable for the loads to and from the Northern Wheel Company, steps to correct this condition are now under way by the city officials, which promise to give the factory a good outlet to Republic avenue.

At the present time a concrete pavement from Republic avenue, east to the factory, a distance of 525 feet is being constructed. The paving is being laid only eight feet wide. This street, however, is little traveled, except for the traffic to and from the factory and it is felt that the eight foot width will be sufficient for the purpose, as it will be very seldom that two teams or trucks will meet on the single block.

The Northern Wheel Company officials some time ago pointed out the condition to the city officials, indicating to them the much greater cost of moving the products of the company over the poor road in this block.

The construction of the eight foot span of paving on Marquette avenue will give the company a fine outlet to Republic avenue and down this well graveled street to the paving on Michigan avenue.

Verne Calkins returned Wednesday morning from his hunting trip. He reports the shooting of a big buck.

## Christmas Seal Day, December 4

Lansing, Nov. 23—Christmas Seal Sunday will this year be observed by the churches in Michigan on Dec. 4. All ministers in the state will be requested by personal letter to give some attention on that day to the fight against tuberculosis. The sale of Christmas seals will begin on Thanksgiving Day, and by the time the seal sale Sunday comes most communities in the state will be in the thick of the work.

An attempt will be made to have some four thousand pastors in Michigan call the attention of their congregations to the health campaign for the purpose of which the seal sale is conducted. Many ministers have already given assurance to the Michigan Tuberculosis association that they will observe the day.

Almost every pastor in the state has a direct interest in the tuberculosis campaign because there is no minister who has been in the work for any length of time who has not been called upon to pronounce funeral sermons over tuberculosis victims whose lives might easily have been saved if the necessary means had been brought to bear.

## PHI STAG HELD AT WRIGHT HALL

EXCELLENT REPAST SERVED; PROGRAM ENJOYED IN GLOW OF OPEN FIRE.

The annual banquet of Phi Phi Alpha was held in the Wright Hall dining room last Saturday evening. The affair proved to be all the enthusiasm this expected and hoped for. Every Phi man and the guests were on hand promptly at eight o'clock to enjoy a sumptuous feast and a live program.

In keeping with the spirit of the occasion, the dining room was profusely decorated with Alma College and Phi Phi Alpha pennants and banners. The result of the efforts of the committee in charge of the decorations was a very cozy room, illuminated by the mellow light of numerous candles and by a crackling grate fire.

Rev. Lovell, the guest of honor, returned thanks. Then the company devoted its attention to the prolonged and arduous task of disposing of what Vreeland called "the refreshments." There were few frills, but a real solid square meal that made the boys think of home and mother's cooking.

## Michigan Hen Near The World's Record

Coming within eight eggs of the World's record for her breed, and within twelve eggs of the "all-breeds" record, Mary Ann II, a Barred Rock hen owned by the Michigan Agricultural College, has just completed a year's egg production which has won her a lasting place in the poultry Hall of Fame. Mary Ann laid the remarkable total of 302 eggs between Nov. 16, 1920 and Nov. 15, 1921.

Proof that "blood will tell" is given by the fact that Mary Ann II has four sisters who produced between 200 and 250 eggs last year. She is the daughter of Mary Ann I, the founder of the now famous strain of Barred Rocks owned at M. A. C.

The "Ann" family are to be on display for class room work during a special Poultry Short Course which opens at the College on November 28 and runs for four weeks.

"During the short course we will show how to raise hens capable of making such records, as well as how to handle them to make the records possible," says W. E. Newlins, Assistant Professor of Poultry at M. A. C.

An advanced Poultry Husbandry course is to be given at the College in January, according to the Winter Short Course program. The work of both courses is designed for the practical man who is actually engaged, or expects to engage in poultry raising.

MASONS GO TO SAGINAW About 75 members of Alma lodge No. 244, F. & A. M. went to Saginaw Tuesday evening and with the Birch Run Masonic lodge, were guests of Saginaw Lodge No. 77 for the evening.

Dinner was served in the spacious dining room of the Saginaw lodge at 6:30 and with the Master of the Birch Run lodge as toastmaster, a number of toasts were responded to, some of them by members of the delegation that was present from Alma. Following the dinner, the members of the Saginaw lodge and their guests went to the lodge rooms, where the third degree was exemplified by the Saginaw lodge.

## BUENOS AYRES IS DISCUSSED IN GOOD PAPER

LEAGUE MEMBERS HEARD OF FIRST IMPRESSIONS THAT CITY MADE

## Mrs. Rodriguez Told Of Her Home City

Mrs. V. V. Rodriguez, who is visiting here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Simon Messenger, at the last meeting of the Civic Improvement league, read the following paper on her impressions of Buenos Aires, which will probably prove of interest to readers of The Record:

"My first impression of Buenos Aires was that it was very much like any of our large cities up here in the States, but soon I discovered that there were differences.

"There are no sky-scrapers in Buenos Aires or for that matter in any of the South American countries. The highest building in Buenos Aires is 13 stories. The other so-called high buildings are not as tall as this and there are not a great many of those. There are no great apartment or office buildings. The style of architecture in the older portions of the city is Spanish. These houses are made of brick, covered with cement, and built up to the street for the most part. These all have the latticed windows and through the open door one sees the patio, a kind of corridor which is turned into an inside garden of beautiful, well-kept plants and flowers. In the larger homes these patios take on vast proportions, containing fountains, statuary, great palms, etc., and are very beautiful. Every home, it matters not how humble it may be, has its inside garden, and whenever possible its outside garden also. The roofs of the houses are all flat with a stone parapet all around and many uses are made of them. Sometimes a small laundry room is built in one corner and the washing is done and the clothes dried up here. Again it is used for a chicken or rabbit park. However, it is more often used as a roof garden and many families entertain on them in preference (especially during the very warm weather) to the garden or rooms below.

"There are more parks in Buenos Aires than in any other city I have ever visited and due to climatic conditions as well as careful cultivation. The tropical growth of trees, plants, shrubs, etc., takes on great beauty. Statuary is used to a great extent in the parks as well as on some of the public buildings. Many of these latter are truly magnificent, as for instance the Teatro Colon, and have justly attained world-wide notice. Some of the boulevards also are very beautiful. One of them in particular being 600 feet wide and fringed on either side by the palaces of men who have become wealthy principally by means of their great "estancias" or farms.

"To return to the parks: I wish I could present to you a word picture of the beauty of these. Here one sees great eucalyptus, rubber, magnolia and every variety of palm trees and our varieties of foliage and many of our plants grow into much larger proportions there.

"I shall try to give you some little idea of one of the beauty spots of Buenos Aires. It is said to be one of the most beautiful and complete of its kind and covers a great area of one of the largest parks. It contains perfect specimens of every rose grown. The bushes and trees are planted on raised green grass plots separated by well-kept pathways on the edges of which are placed benches. On one plot of triangular shape there will be rose trees covered with blossoms in different shades, planted at the corners and at regular intervals and between these great pink roses of perhaps two varieties will be interwoven and garlanded from near the base of one tree to another. In the very center of this garden is a great mound completely covered with pansies in every shade of violet and at the top a fountain of artistic design. Against this background the roses make a picture of indescribable loveliness. The garden is bounded on two sides by artificial lakes on which glide gondolas as well as black and white swans and other water fowl. Steps from which the children feed these extend from different parts of the garden down into the water."

"Banish that awful insomnia that worries you every night. Let your sleep be restful and refreshing. Tan-lac does it. Look-Paterson Drug Co.—advertisement."

Be sure you have seen The Record Press line of Christmas greeting cards before you place your order.—advertisement—26-3w.

## Soil Surveys Are Guide To Buyers

That soil surveys provide a valuable basis for the prospective land buyer, a standard for the banker in placing loans, and a general foundation for all future agricultural development is the contention of experts from all parts of the country who gathered at the Michigan Agricultural College Nov. 18 and 19 for the second Annual Conference of the American Association of Soil Survey Workers.

Twenty-four states, ranging from California to New York, and five Canadian provinces were represented by fifty delegates who are the leaders in American Soil Survey Work. Correlation of the survey programs of the different states and exchanged ideas on the newest developments in the field marked the deliberations of the delegates.

A boost for the Michigan soil survey, started on a small scale two years ago by the soils department at M. A. C. and the U. S. Bureau of Soils, cooperating, and pushed actively since, was expected as a result of the conference, which emphasized many problems pertinent to the Michigan work.

"Some soil survey work has been done in every state in the Union," said W. J. Geib of Wisconsin, secretary of the Survey Association. "Canada is also taking up the survey question and will be organized in the near future. In Canada, as in this country, the state or province agricultural colleges cooperate with the government departments in carrying out the work."

A paper on "Laboratory Work of Value to the Soil Survey" was given before the conference on Saturday morning by Dr. M. M. McCool, head of the M. A. C. Soils Department.

## IS AIDING MANY EX-SERVICE MEN

CLEAN-UP SQUADS COME TO THE FORMER SERVICE MAN WHEN IT IS NECESSARY.

One of the best proofs that the newly created U. S. Veterans' Bureau is functioning efficiently and in the best interests of the disabled ex-service men, lies in the work of the Clean-up Squads. These squads are organized through the District office and there is, at the present time, one Squad operating in each of the forty-eight states of the Union.

The U. S. Veterans' Bureau is a government bureau which came into being upon the enactment of the Sweet Bill in July of this year and is composed of the three old government agencies, the Federal Board for Vocational Education, U. S. Public Health Service and the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, all of which were consolidated to form this new agency. This District, which is the eighth, comprises the States of Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, the district office being at Chicago, Illinois.

In order to give service and eliminate "red tape," the Veterans' Bureau has been organized on a decentralization plan. Fourteen district offices have been established in different parts of the country, and under these, there are one hundred and forty sub-district offices in operation. The outstanding feature of this plan is that men desiring relief or training from the government can get it directly from the district office, whereas formerly it was necessary for adjustments and authorizations to be made from Washington. Through decentralization, the Bureau has established personal contact with the ex-service man who are its wards, and today every disabled man can easily find the means to talk over his case personally with a Bureau representative.

The Clean-up Squads, one of which is operating in each state, Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois, is one of the most successful means of bringing the Bureau to the disabled ex-service man. Each Squad consists of a Compensation Expert, a Training Expert, a Physician and a Secretary, who are sent out from the Bureau; and further than this all Squads in this District are now accompanied by a representative of the American Legion and the American Red Cross. These Squads travel about in the state and establish headquarters for several days at some town which is the center of population in the District. The ex-service men living within a radius of twenty-five or fifty miles of that town can then come to the Squad for personal interviews and present their claims for hospitalization, compensation, and vocational training.

Any ex-service man who is interested in presenting a claim to one of these Squads, may procure further information concerning same by communicating with his local post of the American Legion, the American Red Cross, or the District Office of the Bureau direct at 14 E. Congress St., Chicago, Ill.

## LOWRY TO TELL WHERE YOUR TAX MONEY IS GOING

AUTHORITY ON GOVERNMENT BUSINESS METHODS IS THE AUTHOR OF ARTICLES.

## Will Show How Your Money Is Being Spent

No Washington correspondent is better known or more highly esteemed than Edward G. Lowry. That in itself means that he has broad and deep knowledge of national and world affairs; that he is skillful in getting the news and taut in writing it, and that he has the confidence of the public men with whom he comes in contact. But Mr. Lowry has more than that. He has the really patriotic feeling that the intimate knowledge of the nation's affairs, which he acquires through his work in Washington, should be imparted to the people of the country who have not his privileges, in such a way that they will be led to take that personal interest in the doings of the government, which alone will result in good government. He wants the people to realize that it is their government, answerable to them only, and that they fully are responsible for its good qualities and its bad qualities. It is this feeling that has inspired much of Mr. Lowry's best work.

Born in Atlanta in 1876, Mr. Lowry was educated in private schools, the Georgia Military Institute and by private tutors, and began his journalistic career at the age of twenty-four. In 1904 he was sent to Washington and has been there almost continuously ever since. He has been the political correspondent of Harper's Weekly, has written many articles for the periodical press and since 1913 has been the Washington correspondent of the New York Evening Post, and for a considerable time the managing editor of that paper. When Germany started the World war the government naturally found important work for Mr. Lowry. For two years he was attached to the American embassy in London, and then returned to become a captain in the aviation section of the signal corps. Then he was assistant military attaché at London and on the British front in Flanders, and was with the American Army of Occupation in Germany. For his valuable work he was awarded the British Military Cross. Recently he wrote "Washington Close-Ups," a series of character sketches of eminent figures in the national capital, which the country is reading with vast enjoyment.

For two years Mr. Lowry has been making a close study of the business of the government. He is given credit in congress for his aid in passing the budget bill and in bringing about the naming of the joint committee of the house and senate to investigate and report upon the administration and organization of the government executive departments. He now wants the people of the United States to know the details of the United States government, which is their business. He believes the knowledge of these details will make of them better Americans and give them a better government.

No man not imbued with Mr. Lowry's high ideal could have carried out this study of the government business so exhaustively and painstakingly as has he. Probably he now knows more about it than any other man in the world. With extraordinary perseverance and dogged persistence he went after hidden facts and multifarious details—and got them. Nothing was too big for his comprehension or too small for his attention. At one time he went to a member of the cabinet with the statement that the government had on its payroll, exclusive of the officers and men of the army and navy, one employee for each 68 people of the United States ten years of age and over engaged in gainful occupations. It took that cabinet officer, with the assistants he had at his command, a considerable time, and considerable effort to verify Mr. Lowry's statement, but he found it to be true.

As the result of his careful studies Mr. Lowry has written a series of articles on the business of government income and expense; where the money comes from, and how and for what it is spent; whether the organization of the business side of government is efficient or inefficient; whether the government wastes the money we give it. The series is not in any sense political. It is not an attack, not a mocking expedition. It recites facts, conceded, acknowledged facts. These facts come from the men in the government—from the government itself—and they are all facts that every American citizen is entitled to know and should know.

The series of articles on this subject of "Where Your Taxes Go" will be carried in these columns. They should be read by every American who is interested in the welfare of the nation.

Buy Butternut Bread because it's the best.—16-1f



Edward G. Lowry.

## Plan for Clinics Here in December

By request of the Gratiot County Good Health Society, the Michigan Department of Health will hold a tuberculosis and child clinic in Alma, from December 5 to December 9, inclusive.

In addition to the tuberculosis and child clinic each day a general clinic for ex-service men will be held each afternoon from 2:00 o'clock until 4:00 o'clock.

The clinics will be held on the second floor of the city hall. Entrance to the clinic rooms is reached from the Gratiot avenue entrance to the city hall.

## ZETA SIGMA HAS ANNUAL BANQUET

DANCE IN COLLEGE GYM FOLLOWS BANQUET IN I. O. O. F. HALL.

The Zeta Sigma Literary Society held its thirty-third annual banquet in the I. O. O. F. hall Saturday evening, November 19th. Many Alumni and friends, as well as the active members of the society were present at this social function which yearly marks the zenith of social endeavor of the society.

At six o'clock in the evening, couples began to gather in the lodge rooms of the I. O. O. F. hall. Without delay they were assembled in a line according to their position in the guest list of the program, and as Gallagher's five-piece orchestra struck up a lively march, they were led into the banquet room by President and Mrs. H. M. Crooks. The decorations for the room were of the simplest sort and yet they were sufficient to greet the observer with the pleasantest sensations. The long tables, covered with white linen and set with glittering silver reminded one of the great essential of a banquet; glimpses of society and Alma colors on banners and streamers released pent up enthusiasm for an event which anticipation had stored up. When everyone had reached his assigned place, Dr. Crooks returned thanks to the One who had made the banquet possible, and then all sat down to enjoy themselves before the speakers had an opportunity to obliterate any possible desire to eat.

After the debris from the vicious attacks on the feast had been cleared away, Toastmaster Marks arose, gave the welcome and introduced the first speaker of the evening, Victor Crittenden, president of the society, who spoke of the importance of a good foundation in connection with a society as well as with a house. The next speaker, Lowell Hudson, likened the framework of the society to the many experiences that an organization has to meet. The faculty of the college was ably represented by Professor R. C. Ditto, whose speech which was, "The House That Zeta Sigma Built," intimated that the roof of the structure was in a position to look down upon the activities which transpire inside the house and to see if the members are working as they should. The last three speakers, Don Smith accompanied by Robinson from the Alumni, Fred Mobley, representing the Freshmen, and Miss Mildred Cash, president of the Alpha Theta society, represented well the equally as important parts of a house. "The Shingles," "The Stucco," and "The Porch," respectively. At the conclusion of the programme, the guests and the patronesses, Mrs. Katherine Foster Roberts, Dean of Women, and Mrs. Harry Means Crooks, were taken to the college gymnasium where dancing was enjoyed until eleven-thirty.

As usual, everyone enjoyed the Zeta Sigma Banquet, for to those really interested in the activities of a society there is no re-awakening of acquaintances, no spirit of interest, of friendliness, nor of good fellowship like that spirit which is shown at Zeta Sigma's Annual Banquet.

## WELL THROUGH ROCK STRATA AT 655 FEET

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE NEW WELL WORK WILL CONTINUE TO GREATER DEPTH

## The Exploration Work Is Valuable

Alma's new well is now down to a depth of 655 feet, approximately the last 200 feet of the well having been drilled through rock, and in the strata of ground beneath the rock, the ground caved to such an extent that it is expected that a pipe will be sunk inside of the drill hole to the present depth and the well put down deeper.

One big reason for desiring to continue the well to a further depth is the fact that the city officials are anxious to ascertain whether or not water may be secured at a deeper point. The solution of this vexing question at the present time, with the well at its present depth, can be made at small additional cost as compared with the sinking of a new well at some future period, and then if water is not located in sufficient quantities for a larger flow, force a large expenditure for other means of securing water.

If it is ascertained that plenty of water can be secured at a deeper strata it will mean that the city will have a means of furnishing an abundance of water for years to come for the people of Alma, and that the well water system will be the solution of the city's water problem.

If it cannot be located in quantities at a deeper strata, the city will still be able to tap the pipe between 400 and 450 feet by perforating the pipe, which goes down to the rock at 450 feet, and obtain enough more water to supply the city for the coming few years with this well and the present wells.

It would also serve to show that at some future date the city would be forced to provide for some other means of securing water, and would allow future work at the water works to be made with that in view during the coming years and perhaps save a large sum of money to the city.

State surveys indicate that water will be secured at a deeper spot by the present well. The wells in St. Louis, Ithaca and Midland, which furnish water for those communities are about the depth of the present well here, but indications from state figures are that Alma lies over the bowl of a basin, the rock dipping to a deeper point here than in the surrounding territory. Thus it is hoped that a good flow of water may be secured when the earth strata at a deeper depth are reached.

## HOLD LUNCHEON NEXT TUESDAY

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PLANNING WEEKLY EVENT, TO START ON TUESDAY.

It was announced Tuesday afternoon that the Alma Chamber of Commerce is planning on holding weekly luncheons in the future, the first of which will be held next Tuesday noon.

The plans call for the holding of the luncheons in the city hall, where there are conveniences for holding such luncheons.

Matters of particular interest to the Alma Chamber of Commerce will be taken up at these weekly meetings and solutions to some of the questions that are being sought, may be arrived at. It is understood that Charles G. Rhodes, one of the directors of the organization, is slated for a discussion at the meeting to be held next Tuesday. The subject of his discussion is still to be selected. Others may also be asked to speak at this meeting. The luncheons will probably last, including the discussions, from an hour to an hour and a half.

The first of the luncheons will be planned by Dr. Maynard Pringle and C. A. Miller. Tickets for the luncheon may be procured at fifty cents.

## GEORGE HORST TO SPEAK

Next Monday evening at 6:30 the Brotherhood of the Presbyterian church invite the men of that congregation and their friends to a supper held in the church basement. A committee of men is to serve the menu. George Horst, an ex-Alma football player and now field secretary of the Brotherhood work in the Presbyterian denomination is to speak. The men are anticipating a good time.